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LOUISIANA

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

OCTOBER 1984

RELEASE DATE:
November 26, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1984 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED SEPTEMBER 1984 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED OCTOBER 1983 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,991.1	1,795.3	195.8	9.8	1,983.2	1,795.3	187.9	9.5	1,925.3	1,722.9	202.4	10.5
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	80.1	72.1	8.0	10.0	80.0	72.5	7.5	9.4	78.1	70.8	7.5	9.6
Baton Rouge 2/	254.7	232.2	22.5	8.8	253.6	232.2	21.4	8.4	243.3	221.9	21.4	8.8
Lafayette 3/	98.4	92.0	6.4	6.5	97.8	91.9	5.9	6.1	94.8	87.2	7.6	8.1
Lake Charles 4/	75.2	65.0	10.2	13.6	75.2	65.1	10.1	13.4	78.8	67.9	10.9	13.9
Monroe 5/	60.2	54.3	5.9	9.8	59.5	54.0	5.5	9.2	59.0	52.9	6.1	10.3
New Orleans 6/	542.8	490.8	52.0	9.6	542.2	492.1	50.1	9.2	530.8	481.0	49.8	9.4
Shreveport 7/	174.6	161.0	13.6	7.8	174.2	161.1	13.1	7.5	172.4	155.1	17.3	10.0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,581,000 for October, an increase of 1,900 from September's level and 1,200 above the October a year ago figure. Seasonal upturns in state and local school employment accounted for the largest portion of this month's increase in payrolls. Manufacturing employment for October was lower as both durable and nondurable goods slipped below last month's level.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing decreased by 100 workers in the September to October reporting period. Lumber and wood products employment was down for the current month due to decreased production of millwork, plywood, structural members, wood buildings and mobile homes and decreased activity at sawmills and planing mills. Less demand for concrete, gypsum and plaster products accounted for the decrease in stone, clay, and glass products payrolls. More business for iron and steel foundries and increased production of blast furnace and basic steel products resulted in higher employment for the primary metal industries. Fabricated metal products payrolls fell as decreases occurred in the production of certain miscellaneous fabricated products. Employment in the machinery, except electrical, industry was down largely as a result of cutbacks in the production of farm and garden machinery and construction related machinery. Production of communication equipment increased in October, resulting in higher employment for the electrical and electronic equipment industry. An increase in transportation equipment industry payrolls was centered in the ship and boat building and repairing segment.

Estimated employment in nondurable goods for October was 200 lower than in the prior month and 4,100 lower than the comparable period a year earlier. The lower employment level in apparel and other textile products resulted largely from decreased output of men's and boy's furnishings and certain miscellaneous apparel and accessories. Employment in the printing and publishing segment of nondurable goods moved up in October due to increased activity at commercial printing firms. Petroleum and coal products employment was down from last month due to a slowdown in petroleum refining activity.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during October was 1,398,300, up by 2,200 from the September figure. Mining employment dropped in October as the production of crude petroleum and natural gas fell. An upturn in construction payrolls occurred largely due to increased heavy construction activity, more business for electrical contractors and an increase in activity for certain miscellaneous special trade contracts. Transportation and public utilities experienced a decrease in employment level due in part to a slowdown in business for the state's ports and less business for trucking and warehousing firms. Trade payrolls were up in October largely as a result of increased business in department stores and in eating and drinking establishments. Lower real estate employment contributed to the downturn in the finance, insurance and real estate segment of nonmanufacturing for October. A seasonal drop in amusement and recreation services was instrumental in the decrease of services employment for the current month. Government employment increased primarily as the result of public schools continuing their seasonal increase.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 128,000 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $423.36 in September to $407.71 in October, a decrease of $15.65, but an increase of $17.86 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were $0.16 lower in October than last month but ten cents more than October of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.1 for the current month, down by 0.9 hours from September's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for October amounted to 195,800, an increase of 7,900 over the September level of 187,900. The unemployment rate for October was 9.8 percent compared to 9.5 percent last month and 10.5 percent in October of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for October was 7.0 percent compared to 7.1 percent in September and 8.4 percent in October a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force went from 1,983,200 in September to 1,991,100 in October, an increase of 7,900. Total employment for Louisiana, at 1,795,300, was the same as last month.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to undergo a decline in the upcoming months due to hiring for the holiday season. Retail trade employment should go up as shopping for the holiday season reaches its peak. The manufacturing segment may experience a drop in employment.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	Sept. 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change from Sept. 1984	Net Change from October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,581.0	1,579.1	1,579.8	+ 1.9	+ 1.2
MINING AND QUARRYING	77.8	78.3	78.7	- 0.5	- 0.9
Oil and Gas Extraction	74.7	75.2	75.5	- 0.5	- 0.8
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	113.4	113.0	118.0	+ 0.4	- 4.6
MANUFACTURING	182.7	183.0	182.0	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Durable Goods	84.3	84.4	79.5	- 0.1	+ 4.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.3	13.5	13.4	- 0.2	- 0.1
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.8	0.7	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.7	7.8	7.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.6	3.5	3.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	13.5	13.7	13.6	- 0.2	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	10.1	10.2	9.3	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Electric & Electronic Equipment	11.2	11.0	8.1	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Transportation Equipment	21.5	21.3	21.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.6	2.0	0	+ 0.6
Nondurable Goods	98.4	98.6	102.5	- 0.2	- 4.1
Food & Kindred Products	23.3	23.3	25.9	0	- 2.6
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.9	9.1	8.6	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Paper & Allied Products	11.9	11.9	11.7	0	+ 0.2
Printing & Publishing	9.9	9.8	9.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	28.6	28.6	29.8	0	- 1.2
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.8	11.9	12.8	- 0.1	- 1.0
Petroleum Refining	11.1	11.2	12.2	- 0.1	- 1.1
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	115.9	116.2	117.8	- 0.3	- 1.9
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.5	7.1	0	+ 0.4
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.5	67.7	68.7	- 0.2	- 1.2
Communications & Public Utilities	40.9	41.0	42.0	- 0.1	- 1.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	374.4	373.6	373.6	+ 0.8	+ 0.8
Wholesale Trade	94.9	94.8	95.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	279.5	278.8	278.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.9
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.0	56.7	59.2	+ 0.3	- 2.2
Food Stores	52.8	52.9	51.3	- 0.1	+ 1.5
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.0	30.9	30.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Eating & Drinking Places	86.9	86.4	85.5	+ 0.5	+ 1.4
Other Retail Trade	51.8	51.9	51.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.4	83.5	83.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Banking	27.9	27.9	27.8	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	311.9	312.2	306.5	- 0.3	+ 5.4
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	23.0	22.8	21.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
Other Services	288.9	289.4	284.8	- 0.5	+ 4.1
GOVERNMENT	321.5	319.3	319.9	+ 2.2	+ 1.6
Federal	34.5	34.3	34.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
State and Local	287.0	285.0	285.9	+ 2.0	+ 1.1
State	99.3	98.4	103.0	+ 0.9	- 3.7
Local	187.7	186.6	182.9	+ 1.1	+ 4.8

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$407.71	$423.36	$389.85	41.1	42.0	39.7	$9.92	$10.08	$9.82
Durable Goods	382.94	401.95	351.39	41.0	42.4	39.0	9.34	9.48	9.01
Lumber & Wood Products	322.48	348.88	270.78	38.9	40.9	38.3	8.29	8.53	7.07
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	325.55	384.13	352.90	38.3	43.8	43.3	8.50	8.77	8.15
Fabricated Metal Products	374.18	384.14	356.07	41.3	42.4	39.0	9.06	9.06	9.13
Machinery, ex. Electrical	393.71	404.28	354.72	41.4	42.2	37.3	9.51	9.58	9.51
Electric & Electronic Equip.	473.74	487.31	375.36	46.4	45.8	39.1	10.21	10.64	9.60
Transportation Equipment	435.41	434.36	393.79	39.8	40.9	39.3	10.94	10.62	10.02
Nondurable Goods	431.36	443.87	428.24	41.2	41.6	40.4	10.47	10.67	10.60
Food & Kindred Products	261.74	274.18	253.64	39.9	40.8	37.8	6.56	6.72	6.71
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	174.23	185.28	177.25	34.5	36.4	38.2	5.05	5.09	4.64
Paper & Allied Products	506.42	549.13	513.95	42.7	44.9	42.3	11.86	12.23	12.15
Printing & Publishing	299.10	334.21	350.72	39.2	37.3	39.9	7.63	8.96	8.79
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	627.11	626.88	623.77	43.1	42.5	42.9	14.55	14.75	14.54
Petroleum & Coal Products	679.18	651.94	639.86	47.1	45.4	46.4	14.42	14.36	13.79
Petroleum Refining	707.04	665.21	655.17	48.0	45.5	46.4	14.73	14.62	14.12
MINING	558.76	549.98	527.05	49.1	47.7	47.1	11.38	11.53	11.19
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	461.13	471.23	451.56	38.3	39.8	39.3	12.04	11.84	11.49
BANKING	241.50	245.23	224.26	37.5	39.3	38.8	6.44	6.24	5.78

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 128,000 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 104,700 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1984				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	25,525	22,675	2,850	11.2	25,400	22,500	2,900	11.4
Oakdale (Allen)	6,750	5,575	1,175	17.6	6,775	5,575	1,200	17.6
Napoleonville (Assumption)	11,675	10,225	1,450	12.4	11,450	10,025	1,425	12.4
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,925	11,375	1,550	12.0	12,700	11,275	1,425	11.2
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,700	7,050	650	8.5	7,600	6,925	675	8.9
Columbia (Caldwell)	5,425	4,875	550	10.3	5,225	4,775	450	8.5
Cameron (Cameron)	5,125	4,725	400	7.7	5,125	4,800	325	6.4
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,700	6,025	675	10.0	6,700	6,100	600	9.1
Homer (Claiborne)	7,875	7,200	675	8.6	7,825	7,225	600	7.7
Ferriday (Concordia)	10,375	9,100	1,275	12.2	10,150	9,050	1,100	10.7
Mansfield (DeSoto)	12,350	11,125	1,225	9.9	12,275	11,100	1,175	9.5
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,700	4,975	725	12.6	5,750	5,050	700	12.1
Clinton (East Feliciana)	8,725	7,900	825	9.5	8,550	7,775	775	9.1
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	15,400	13,425	1,975	12.8	15,525	13,525	2,000	12.8
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,350	8,200	1,150	12.4	9,450	8,275	1,175	12.6
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,650	32,675	3,975	10.8	36,550	32,650	3,900	10.7
Plaquemine (Iberville)	16,450	14,500	1,950	11.9	16,300	14,425	1,875	11.5
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,750	6,175	575	8.4	6,625	6,125	500	7.4
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,950	12,125	1,825	13.1	14,025	12,175	1,850	13.2
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	40,375	36,700	3,675	9.1	40,200	36,550	3,650	9.1
Jena (LaSalle)	6,725	6,150	575	8.7	6,500	6,000	500	7.9
Ruston (Lincoln)	22,900	21,925	975	4.2	22,750	21,825	925	4.1
Tallulah (Madison)	5,750	5,125	625	10.7	5,950	5,325	625	10.5
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,625	12,175	1,450	10.7	13,600	12,200	1,400	10.4
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	18,625	17,025	1,600	8.5	18,300	16,900	1,400	7.7
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	15,100	13,950	1,150	7.7	14,975	13,975	1,000	6.6
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	14,650	13,225	1,425	9.7	14,350	12,975	1,375	9.6
Coushatta (Red River)	4,575	4,225	350	7.8	4,550	4,200	350	7.8
Rayville (Richland)	9,325	8,350	975	10.5	9,100	8,100	1,000	11.0
Many (Sabine)	8,700	7,975	725	8.5	8,525	7,825	700	8.2
Norco (St. Charles)	22,875	20,425	2,450	10.7	23,000	20,600	2,400	10.4
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,900	4,475	425	8.8	4,900	4,500	400	8.3
Lutcher (St. James)	12,975	11,250	1,725	13.3	12,650	11,075	1,575	12.5
Reserve (St. John)	19,650	17,150	2,500	12.7	19,375	17,025	2,350	12.1
Opelousas (St. Landry)	36,875	31,100	5,775	15.7	36,825	31,275	5,550	15.1
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,675	18,100	2,575	12.5	20,625	18,075	2,550	12.4
Morgan City (St. Mary)	33,775	29,825	3,950	11.7	33,875	30,000	3,875	11.4
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	37,675	32,175	5,500	14.6	37,375	32,200	5,175	13.8
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,575	3,300	275	7.5	3,550	3,275	275	8.1
Houma (Terrebonne)	47,825	43,500	4,325	9.1	47,550	43,250	4,300	9.0
Farmerville (Union)	8,275	7,500	775	9.5	8,225	7,450	775	9.4
Abbeville (Vermilion)	26,400	23,725	2,675	10.1	26,475	23,950	2,525	9.6
Leesville (Vernon)	13,275	11,800	1,475	11.2	13,150	11,700	1,450	11.0
Bogalusa (Washington)	15,675	13,500	2,175	13.9	15,575	13,475	2,100	13.4
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,775	4,000	775	16.1	4,750	4,050	700	15.1
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	4,075	3,800	275	6.6	4,000	3,775	225	5.8
Winnfield (Winn)	6,075	5,525	550	9.0	6,000	5,550	500	8.6

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parentheses.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	55.1	54.8	54.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.3	49.0	49.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Construction	3.4	3.4	3.6	0	- 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.6	2.6	2.5	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.6	12.5	12.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.7	2.8	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	9.8	9.8	9.7	0	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	1.9	2.0	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.4	2.3	- 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	4.2	4.2	4.2	0	0
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.9	11.8	11.9	+ 0.1	0
Health Services	5.1	5.1	5.2	0	- 0.1
Other Services & Mining	6.8	6.7	6.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	15.9	15.8	15.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.7	5.7	5.8	0	- 0.1
Local	7.4	7.3	7.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Alexandria area had an estimated nonagricultural employment of 55,100 during October. This employment estimate is 300 more than the previous month and 200 more than October of last year.

Total employment in the manufacturing sector remained unchanged since the previous month and the same as this month last year.

Total employment in the nonmanufacturing sectors increased by 300 since September. Changes since last month shows increases in wholesale trade, services, and government. Changes as compared to October of last year reveals increases in transportation communication and utilities; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and government. Decreases covering the same period came in the construction industry.

During the next thirty days, total employment should remain fairly constant with the number of unemployed increasing slightly.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	214.1	213.7	209.3	+ 0.4	+ 4.8
MANUFACTURING	22.2	21.9	22.4	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Durable Goods	4.5	4.4	3.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.1	1.0	0.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.6	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	17.7	17.5	18.6	+ 0.2	- 0.9
Food & Kindred Products	2.2	2.1	2.3	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	12.9	12.9	13.7	0	- 0.8
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.0	1.1	+ 0.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	191.9	191.8	186.9	+ 0.1	+ 5.0
Mining	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Construction	21.2	20.8	20.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.7	9.6	10.4	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	52.8	52.5	49.7	+ 0.3	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.3	11.2	11.3	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	41.5	41.3	38.4	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.8	12.6	12.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Services	40.0	40.6	38.2	- 0.6	+ 1.8
Government	54.5	54.8	54.6	- 0.3	- 0.1

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$456.19	$504.61	$483.91	39.6	42.8	42.9	$11.52	$11.79	$11.28
Petro-Chemicals	637.00	685.05	644.24	43.6	46.1	44.4	14.61	14.86	14.51

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricuitural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 214,100 during October was up 400 over the revised September total and up 4,800 over the total for last October. Increases were in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing .

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in October was up 300 from the revised September total. Durable goods were up due to more business in concrete, gypsum, and plaster products. Nondurable goods were up due to seasonal increases in sugar and confectionery products and in men's, youth's, and boys furnishings, work clothing, and allied garments.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 191,900 during October was up from the revised September total. Construction was up due to more business in heavy construction, electrical work, masonry, stonework, tile setting, and plastering and in miscellaneous special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities increased due to more business in trucking, local and long distance and more activity in radio and television broadcasting and in services incidental to water transportation. Wholesale and retail trade had seasonal increases. Finance, insurance, and real estate was up due to more business in commercial and stock savings banks and in subdividers and developers. Services had a considerable drop due to a seasonal change in photographic studios, portrait, and less business in personnel supply services, miscellaneous business services, hospitals, and in legal services. Government dropped due to reduction in local government employment.

Preliminary estimates of Baton Rouge LMA's average hours and earnings in all manufacturing industries indicate a sizeable drop in all three catagories due to less overtime worked at premium pay; however, these drops should be smaller when the current data is revised next month due to more data being available from sample reporters.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 232,200 during October and remained unchanged from the September revised estimate. Unemployment was up 1,100 during the current period resulting in an increased unemployment rate from 8.4 percent in September to 8.8 percent in October. The statewide unemployment rate was 9.8 percent in October. The local civilian labor force increased by 1,100 during the current period.

Baton Rouge's unemployment rate is expected to go down during the coming period due to seasonal increases in most nonmanufacturing industries.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,183 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 1,200 applicants in jobs during October.

The consumer price index for September, 1984 for all urban consumers was 314.5 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 312.1 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	89.2	89.0	86.2	+ 0.2	+ 3.0
MANUFACTURING	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	1.9	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	85.3	85.1	82.6	+ 0.2	+ 2.7
Mining	16.8	16.7	15.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.3
Construction	5.0	5.0	5.2	0	- 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.7	6.7	6.6	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.5	24.4	23.1	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	6.7	6.7	6.7	0	0
Retail Trade	17.8	17.7	16.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Retail Trade	10.9	10.8	9.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.7	3.8	+ 0.1	0
Services	18.3	18.4	18.0	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Government	10.2	10.2	10.4	0	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette stood at 89,200, an increase of 200 over the previous month of September and 3,000 over a comparable period a year ago.

The increase was in the nonmanufacturing segment. It increased 200 from the prior month and 2,700 from October of 1983. The largest increase was in the retail trade. It increased 100 from September and 1,400 from October of 1983.

Manufacturing remained at the same level from September but increased 300 from a comparable period a year ago.

The other segments of the economy showed very little variation.

Lafayette's unemployment rate is expected to decline in the following month due to the hiring for the holiday season. Seasonal growth will probably be evident in retail trade. Government employment may show an increase next month. Construction should decline due to inclement weather in the winter.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	57.9	57.9	62.2	0	- 4.3
MANUFACTURING	9.1	9.1	9.7	0	- 0.6
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.3	8.3	8.9	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.5	7.5	7.9	0	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.8	48.8	52.5	0	- 3.7
Mining	2.1	2.1	2.4	0	- 0.3
Construction	4.6	4.5	6.6	+ 0.1	- 2.0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.6	4.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.4	13.5	14.7	- 0.1	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.3	3.3	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.2	10.2	11.4	0	- 1.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	1.9	2.4	0	- 0.5
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.5	10.5	11.0	0	- 0.5
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.6	10.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment on area payrolls in October remained the same over the mid-September level. Manufacturing and nonmanufacturing remained at the same level.

Manufacturing was unchanged from the previous month but showed a decrease of 600 from the same period a year ago. This decrease was noted in nondurable goods with the bulk of it in chemical and petroleum products.

Trade showed a decrease of 100 from the previous month and a decline of 1,300 from the same period of time a year ago.

The other segments of the economy remained about the same.

During the next 30 days, trade employment may begin climbing as area merchants prepare for the Christmas shopping season. Unemployment may dip slightly.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.8	50.3	50.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
MANUFACTURING	7.1	7.0	7.1	+ 0.1	0
Durable Goods	2.2	2.1	2.2	+ 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	1.9	2.0	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.9	4.9	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	1.0	1.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.2	3.1	3.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	43.7	43.3	43.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Mining	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Construction	2.5	2.3	3.1	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.8	2.7	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.6	14.4	14.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.0	4.1	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.5	10.4	10.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.0	3.0	2.7	0	+ 0.3
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.0	2.9	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.1	0	0
Services	10.4	10.5	10.0	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.3	4.3	4.1	0	+ 0.2
Government	8.9	8.9	8.6	0	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 50,800 was 500 above the September estimate of 50,300.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,100 was up 100 from the September estimate. The minimal gain was in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 43,700, was 400 above the September estimate. Construction was 200 above a month ago and reflects efforts to complete outside projects before the winter begins. Transportation and public utilities was up 100. Wholesale and retail trade rose by 200 as preparations for the upcoming holidays get under way. Services had the only loss, 100. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 60 days employment should rise slightly as the holiday season approaches. Unemployment will remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	505.6	506.1	506.9	- 0.5	- 1.3
MANUFACTURING	39.9	39.7	40.6	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Durable Goods	23.7	23.6	23.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.5	2.6	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	3.0	2.9	- 0.1	0
Transportation Equipment	13.2	13.0	13.2	+ 0.2	0
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.1	7.9	8.5	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.3	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	16.2	16.1	16.8	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	6.5	6.6	7.3	- 0.1	- 0.8
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.8	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.3	3.2	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	465.7	466.4	466.3	- 0.7	- 0.6
Mining	18.8	18.6	18.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Construction	27.1	28.0	31.9	- 0.9	- 4.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	45.8	46.0	47.0	- 0.2	- 1.2
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	15.9	15.9	16.0	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.2	132.4	130.2	- 0.1	+ 2.1
Wholesale Trade	34.9	35.0	34.5	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	97.4	97.4	95.7	0	+ 1.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	30.8	30.9	31.7	- 0.1	- 0.9
Services	125.4	125.4	122.7	0	+ 2.7
Government	65.5	85.1	84.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
Federal	14.7	14.9	14.9	- 0.2	- 0.2
State	19.7	19.6	20.7	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Local	51.1	50.6	48.9	+ 0.5	+ 2.2

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$346.81	$378.73	$353.08	40.4	40.9	38.8	$9.03	$9.26	$9.10
Durable Goods	387.82	386.04	369.33	42.2	41.2	39.0	9.19	9.37	9.47
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	253.43	313.12	350.26	31.6	38.0	41.5	8.02	8.24	8.44
Fabricated Metal Products	403.80	439.85	403.48	47.9	49.7	38.5	8.43	8.85	10.48
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	476.18	382.53	355.12	47.1	38.6	37.9	10.11	9.91	9.37
Nondurable Goods	329.00	369.05	328.79	37.6	40.6	38.5	8.75	9.09	8.54
Food & Kindred Products	284.10	310.34	275.34	38.6	40.2	39.0	7.36	7.72	7.06
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	118.67	148.05	128.74	29.3	32.9	28.8	4.05	4.50	4.47
Paper & Allied Products	318.72	377.14	334.97	41.5	43.3	41.1	7.68	8.71	8.15
Printing & Publishing	336.60	390.72	347.49	39.6	44.4	43.6	8.50	8.80	7.97
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	461.87	591.34	540.48	33.3	40.2	38.8	13.87	14.71	13.93

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 27,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in October eased down to 505,600, showing a small overall decrease of 500 since September. Nonmanufacturing accounted for most of the reduction in employment, largely in construction.

Manufacturing employment in the New Orleans area totaled 39,900 in October, 200 above last month. Largely responsible for the gain in employment was increased activity at area shipyards. The other manufacturing industries exhibited minor fluctuations or held steady over the month. Total manufacturing employment is at a level 700 less than this time one year ago.

Nonmanufacturing showed decreases in most industry divisions, with the largest in construction. Employment by special trade contractors moved down considerably. In trade, wholesale trade displayed a downturn in durable goods partly balanced by an upturn in nondurable goods. Retail trade total employment held steady as gains in general merchandise stores and food stores were offset by decreases in eating and drinking places, building material dealers, and automotive dealers and service stations. Transportation and public utilities exhibited scattered small downturns. Most segments of finance and insurance tapered off. More favorably, mining added workers, mainly in oil and gas field services. Local government was boosted by a seasonal gain in the public schools. Services held steady as decreases in amusement services and business services were offset by gains in private educational services and the hotel-motel industry.

Factory workers earned an average $364.81 a week in October, $13.92 less than last month. Less overtime hours worked for premium pay was the major cause of the drop of 23 cents in average hourly earnings and 30 minutes less in average weekly hours. Compared to one year ago, production workers earned $11.73 a week more.

Estimated unemployment in October increased to 52,000, up 1,900 from September. The decrease in employment was mainly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 9.6 percent of the labor force compared to 9.2 percent in September and 9.4 percent in October of last year. The unemployment rate of 9.6 percent in October was lower than the state rate of 9.8 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.0 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 13,032. Approximately 44.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 29.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to exhibit an overall increase. Retail trade will benefit from shopping for the holiday season. Services will be hurt by the closing of the World's Fair, but this loss will be partly offset by the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season. Construction and mining will make downward adjustments necessitated by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably remain near the current level.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1984*	September 1984**	October 1983**	Net Change From September 1984	Net Change From October 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	152.1	152.1	149.7	0	+ 2.4
MANUFACTURING	26.2	26.2	23.7	0	+ 2.5
Durable Goods	20.6	20.6	17.9	0	+ 2.7
Lumber and Wood Products	1.4	1.4	1.6	0	- 0.2
Metals and Machinery	13.1	13.1	10.7	0	+ 2.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.8	0	+ 0.1
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	9.2	9.2	6.9	0	+ 2.3
Other Durable Goods	6.1	6.1	5.6	0	+ 0.5
Nondurable Good	5.6	5.6	5.8	0	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.3	1.5	0	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	125.9	125.9	126.0	0	- 0.1
Mining	6.0	6.5	6.1	- 0.5	- 0.1
Construction	9.4	9.5	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.7
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.3	9.4	9.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	33.9	33.6	33.9	+ 0.3	0
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.1	8.9	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	24.8	24.5	25.0	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.0	8.0	8.1	0	- 0.1
Services	32.6	32.8	32.4	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Government	26.7	26.1	26.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.7

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**	October '84*	Sept. '84**	October '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$424.76	$419.89	$368.48	41.4	42.2	39.2	$10.26	$9.95	$9.40
Lumber and Wood Products	225.04	233.28	237.80	42.3	40.5	39.7	5.32	5.76	5.99
Metals and Machinery	436.75	449.20	361.94	43.2	45.1	39.6	10.11	9.96	9.14
Food and Kindred Products	246.91	232.17	189.33	38.4	35.5	32.7	6.43	6.54	5.79
Printing and Publishing	255.74	239.67	226.29	33.3	30.3	28.9	7.68	7.91	7.83
Petroleum and Coal Products	553.61	560.60	501.16	46.6	46.6	44.0	11.88	12.03	11.39

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 20,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wages and salary employment in the Shreveport area is estimated at 152,100, unchanged from the previous month but has increased 2,400 since October, 1983. Employment estimated in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing remain unchanged from the previous month.

During the past year total manufacturing employment has increased from 23,700, to 26,200, an increase of 2,700 in durable goods and a slight loss of 200 in nondurable goods employment. Losses in nondurables occurred in food and kindred products and in petroleum and coal products.

The nonmanufacturing employment total is estimated at 125,900. Employment gains during the past month in retail trade and government were offset by losses in mining, construction, transportation and public utilities and services.

The number of production workers in manufacturing 20,700 had average weekly earnings of $424.76, up from the revised September amount of $419.89. The average weekly hours declined from 42.2 last month to 41.4, while average hourly earnings increased from $9.95 to $10.26.

This area has a total civilian labor force of 174,600, including 161,000 employed and 13,600 unemployed. The current unemployment rate is 7.8 percent compared with 9.8 percent for the state.

Employment in this area is expected to show a slight increase with next month's estimates. Gains expected in retail trade should offset any employment losses caused by adverse weather conditions. Total unemployment for the area should remain nearly unchanged for the next month.